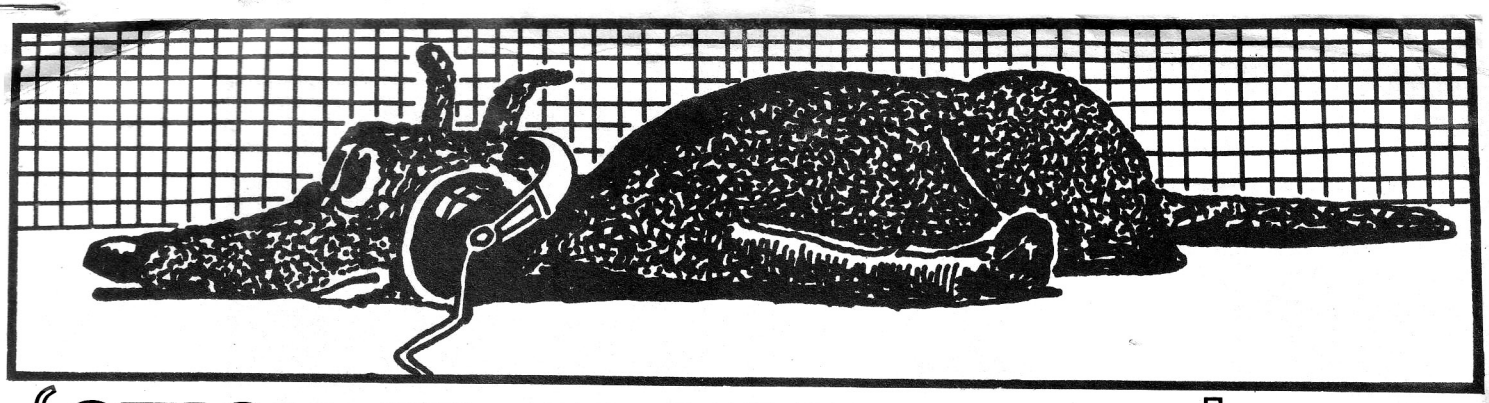

'STICK IT IN YOUR EAR!'

CASSETTE SPECIAL—over 50 tapes reviewed, all costing under £2. Reviews of The Freshies, The Digital Dinosaurs, P.A. Wells, Sea of Wire plus many others...also includes "SOLENT BEAT" supplement, featuring tapes available by local Southampton bands...

Available from-
GEOFF WALL.
9 GLADSTONE ROAD,
SHOLING,
SOUTHAMPTON,
SO2 8GU,
HANTS.

All enquiries welcome-only please enclose a SAE because all our money goes on either producing this rag or alcohol!

To those who sent tapes-many thanks. Sorry about the brief reviews,but we have quite a backlog to get through. Still all the relevent information of how to obtain the tapes is included together with the price etc.

A party political broadcast (& just as boring!)...Due to our inefficiency, some time has elapsed between us acquiring the tapes & the production of this rag-as most 'artists' have limited funds they are only able to copy tapes in small runs-so we recommend writing first to see if copies are still available.(Having said that we're pretty sure that most of the tapes in this issue are still obtainable).

If sending for any of the tapes,please mention to the 'artist' where you read about them.

& finally,all tapes are most welcome-(demos,studio,live,garage,frontroom, wherever).Keep on sending them!If you have views on the DIY tape scene,or perhaps would like to write an article or review,please drop us a line at the above address.

The rapid growth of the DIY cassette scene has provided a cheap & easy realistic alternative to the major record companies stranglehold.Anything that challanges their monopoly must be encouraged!

Unfortunately there appears to be an extreamly patronising attitude towards this healthy scene by many of the music weeklies (with the notable exception of one).

If someone makes the time & effort to produce their own tape/record/fanzine etc.,it deserves more than being dismissed out of hand for it's amateur appearance or sound!Obviously standards vary,but that's to be expected.Some tapes are more 'professional' than many of the records released by the record companies-eg,Chris Sievey & the Freshies,& Kevin Salinger.Whilst others may be poor because of lack of funds or facilities.(It all comes down to personal tastes anyway).

The point is that these people are trying,& should be encouraged as much as possible!

Our intention is to offer a view of the cassette world generally & to judge individual tapes for what they are.We hope eventually that with your help this mag will become a guide,with advice on recording,making copies, & distributing your own tape.So please write! We really do need you & your comments, articles,reviews,tapes etc.....

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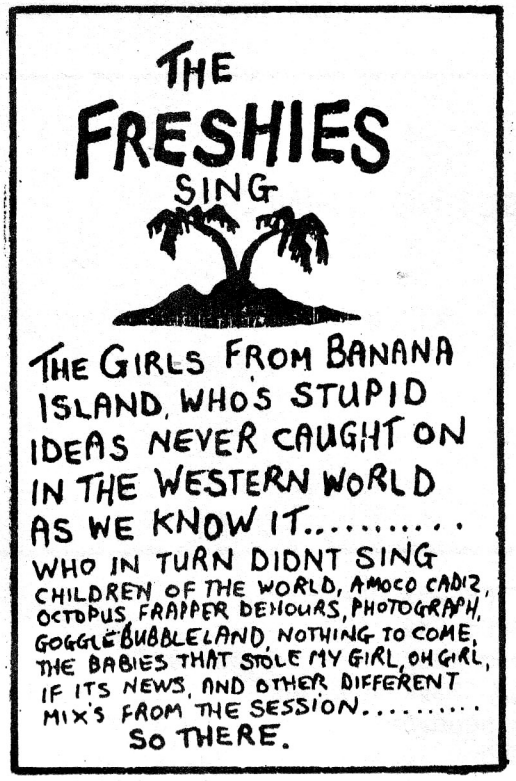
Grateful thanks for support & encouragement to the following,without whose help etc....
Phil Johnson, Phil Tyler
Paul Wells, John (for the typewriter)
Steve Pulling (Virgin Records-Marble Arch)
Stuart,Steve,Pat,Dave & everyone else at (Virgin Records-Southampton)
& everybody who sent tapes together with words of encouragement.

The 'thumbs down & a large raspberry award' to the following for failing to send tapes which had been paid for-
Airebeat Records,Blackpool
James Nastic,Woolwich

Next issue will hopefully feature-
Philip Johnson
Conventional Tapes
MOE (Methods of Execution)
The Freshies (providing "Rough 'n' Ready" is out)
+ lots more local tapes-
Vampiernaacht
Arnold Grimstead + many others

Wanted:any information on
JOY DIVISION ROBERT FRIPP
TALKING HEADS FRANK ZAPPA
bootlegs/tapes etc for forthcoming fanzine.Tracks,dates,quality etc.
All help appreciated!


THE
FRESHIES
SING
THE GIRLS FROM BANANA ISLAND, WHO'S STUPID IDEAS NEVER CAUGHT ON IN THE WESTERN WORLD AS WE KNOW IT.....
WHO IN TURN DIDNT SING
CHILDREN OF THE WORLD, AMOCO CADIZ, OCTOPUS, FRAPPER DEHOURS, PHOTOGRAPH, GOGGLE BUBBLELAND, NOTHING TO COME, THE BABIES THAT STOLE MY GIRL, OH GIRL, IF ITS NEWS, AND OTHER DIFFERENT MIX'S FROM THE SESSION.....
SO THERE.

CHRIS SIEVEY & THE FRESHIES.
Available from Razz Records,20 Cotton Lane,Withington,Manchester,M20 9UX. £2.17 each

Having lived with these three tapes for a year or so,& during that time played them incessantly,I honestly believe that Chris & the boys play the most melodic & inventive pop music that I've heard since the Beatles!Just put them in a studio & they come up with a handful of classic tunes every time.

The Freshies tapes are unreservedly recommended,as are their singles (also available from the above address).

THE FRESHIES-"ALL SLEEPS SECRETS"
RAZZ CS1. C60. Limited edition of 1000.

Recorded at Mars Studio,Altrincham in 1978,it starts with the sound of an alarm clock being wound ,& the band play a song about drifting off into sleep over a lovely drowsy backing.From this point each song represents a different dream,which eventually turn from being pleasant into nightmares.Throughout the sequense there is a wonderful floating effect in the music.The whole LP is excellently played,with great guitar & keyboard lines,over an equally strong rhythm section.But it's the vocals & harmonies that give that finishing touch,which turns it from being just a good recording into a great one!

Chris did tell me that they hoped to release this tape as an LP sometime in the near future.I do hope so!

THE FRESHIES-"MANCHESTER PLAYS"
RAZZ CS2. C60. No longer available.

Unfortunately no longer available because Piccadilly Radio gave them no clearance to use their tapes!It features the band playing in the studio & being interviewed by the aforementioned PR,Granada TV & BBC Radio Manchester.Included is my favourite version of "Amoco Cadiz" (of which there are now five).

THE FRESHIES-"SING THE GIRLS FROM BANANA ISLAND WHO'S STUPID IDEAS NEVER CAUGHT ON IN THE WESTERN WORLD AS WE KNOW IT..."
RAZZ CS3. C60. Limited edition of 1000.

This session recorded at Mars Studio in June 1979,produced the magnificent "Men from Banana Island..." EP (RAZZ 3).The tape is of the rest of the session plus different mix's of the EP,& it's really an indispensable item.Once more Chris has written pop gems that really deserve a wider audience.Special mention must go to Barry Spencer's guitar playing on "Nothing to come".It's exceptional!

* I do strongly urge you to buy both of the available tapes & hopefully it will not be too long before RAZZ CS4 appears.

Keep on with the good work Chris,despite those pile of record company rejection slips!

COLLECTING THINPOPS

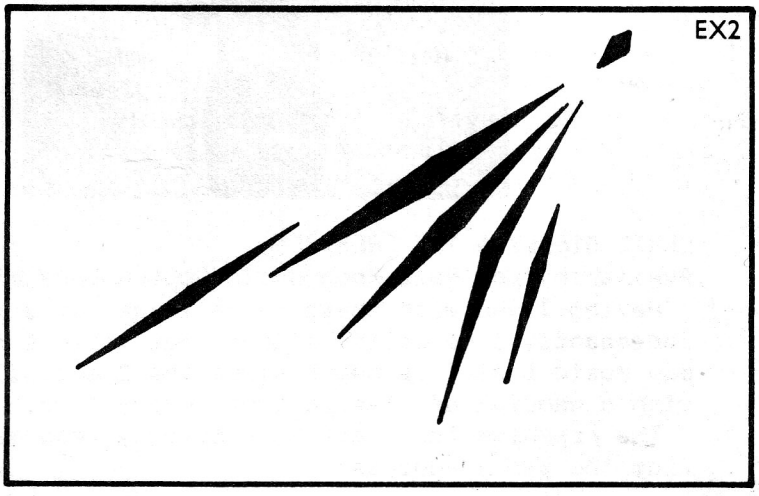
KEVIN SALINGER

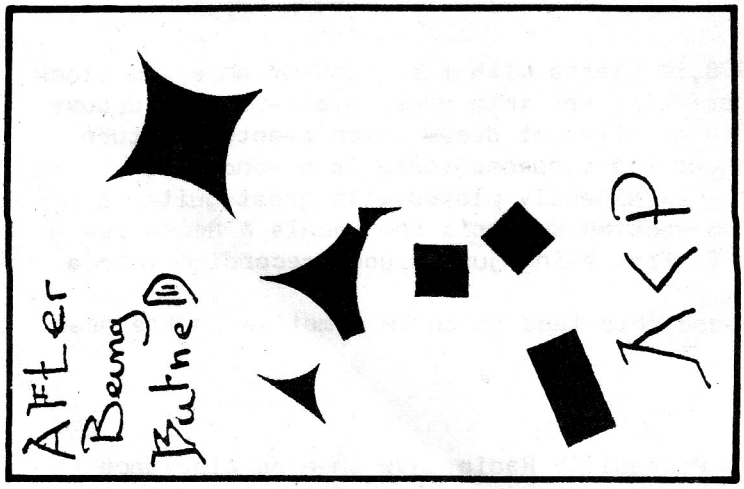
KEVIN SALINGER."COLLECTING THINPOPS".
Available from K.Salinger,c/o 10 Danesway, Pinhoe,Exeter,Devon. £1.17 C45.

I find it incredible that this tape was recorded on only a 2-track Akai machine. The quality really is exceptional!Kevin has produced a collection of 11 superb pop songs by multi-tracking himself playing various instruments."Pop pop weather" is being featured on Zygo Records compilation album shortly.This tape is, along with the Freshies,the best that we've recieved & certainly deserves to be heard by more people.Send for your copy without delay!More please Kev...

THE TRANSMITTERS-"I JAX DUB".
ECCENTRIC TAPES EX2. C50.
Available from Rough Trade Records, 202 Kensington Park Road,London W11. £1.75

Infinately superior to their 1978 "24 hours" LP (Ebony Records EBY 1002).This tape is full of driving,percussive drums,& raw guitar playing.Amanda de Grey's keyboard work is also extreamly good.There is certainly a dub sound to the tape.Just listen to "The dub that saved the war"-it sounds like the Pink Floyd of old.Syd Barratt lives on in this mob!Those guitars are so good...Apparently the band are releasing another tape on 'Conventional'soon.





NCP-"AFTER BEING BURNED".
SANC9. C90.
Available from R.I.Gillham,Weston House, Queens Road,Oswestry,Salop. £2

A tape of synth songs & instrumentals. Rob has produced a collection of synth improvisations that are extreamly easy to listen to.There are infact eleven other tapes available from him,& having heard this one we'd like to hear more!Some peoples synth are very difficult to stick with (they usually are 'jarring'),but this tape has quite the reverse effect. Well worth getting.

THIS HEAT-"COMBUSTION".
C40.

This unsolicited tape dropped through the door recently,& we can only assume that it's a bootleg.There was no information in the package except for the details on the right!

The tape perfectly compliments the bands' official LP (Piano Records THIS-1),which was released in August 1979.Taken from John Peel Radio 1 sessions back in 1977, there ia a 'raw' quality about the sound which somehow got lost when the band made their aforementioned LP.An enthusiasm that was fortunately 'captured' by the BBC.It's a shame that it's not widely available!

THIS HEAT
"COMBUSTION"

JOHN PEEL SESSION
22 APRIL 1977
1.FALL OF SAIGON
2.NOT WAVING BUT DROWNING
3.HORIZONTAL HOLD

JOHN PEEL SESSION
24 NOV 1977
1.MAKESHIFT
2.RIMP,ROMP,RAMP, (REMP,RUMP)
3.SITTING
4.SLITHER
5.BASEMENT

THE DIGITAL DINOSAURS.
"EAR POP" SPOTT RECORDS PUSS 2. C80.
"NEW NEEDLES" SPOTT RECORDS PUSS 3.
Available from C.J.Sidwell.24 Kempley Ave, Copsewood,Coventry,CV2 5LP,West Midlands. £2 each.

Both tapes bring back memories of Kevin Ayers,Syd Barratt & that great 'west coast sound'.Lots of 'fluid' electric guitar & over-the-top vocals.Magnificient stuff. "My strange experience" is particularly outstanding.Apparently their third tape is available shortly.Both the above tapes are highly recommended!

STARK."INSANITY IS ONLY A HAIRSBREATH AWAY" DEAD HIPPY TAPES DH1. C30.
Available from D.Arnold.19 Westmorland Rd, Maidstone,Kent. £1.17.

Great slabs of sound.Excellent drums & percussion over which lots of guitar feed-back/chords played.Recorded live.The band certainly live up to their name.Forget what Sounds said about this tape-it's really worth getting.Hurry up with the next tape lads!

Almost forgot-good vocals sung over the top of the music.

THE ACCELERATORS."HAVE YOU BEEN ACCELERATED?". C20.No longer available.

This excellent 5 track demo was recorded by the Liverpool band in 1979.Since then they've released a 12"EP-"MACHINE-AGE RHYTHM 'N' BLUES" on Spiv Records,(from Virgin Records),& are not making anymore tapes.A real pity!5 great rock songs. "Western Counties" is about a pub in London which threw them out for being too loud & too 'new-wave",I can't understand how the landlord arrived at that idea. Band available for gigs-phone 051-728-7639,or write to 26 Bentley Rd,Liverpool.

SCROTUM POLES."AUCHMITHY CALLING". C30.
ONE-TONE TAPES ERECT 1.
Available from 41 Balmoral Terr,Douglas, Dundee,Scotland. £1.17.

Originally titled 'Wednesday night at the mill',the second batch of tapes have been renamed 'Auchmithy calling',in respect of the Auchmithy Woman's Guild offering the band a gig.I'd dearly love to know just what reaction the band got from the old dears & if they got offered a return gig!A good rock band playing 'new-wave' style stuff.

MARK S."SYSTEMATIC ILLUSION". C30. £1.17.
Available from Mark,15 Wood Lane,Isleworth, Middlesex.

Recorded on a mini-cassette recorder,Mark considers it to be 'pretty basic stuff'.The extreamly good quality tape consists of short instrumental pieces played on a Wasp synth & a drum machine.The tape has a rather eerie quality.Mark has managed to overdub the synth, drum machine & vocals very well,with little loss in sound.Recommended.

THE X-CERTS."THE X-CERTS TAPES. C40.
No longer available.

6 demos recorded at GBH Studios,Bristol,& 5 at Paul Roberts Studio,Manchester.Great rock band who come from Bristol,& who had a track on the "Four Alternatives" EP on Heartbeat Records,& another on "Avon Calling (The Bristol Compilation)".They're trying to get a recording deal & a John Peel session, which judging by their tape,they'll have no trouble with!A really fine band.Outstanding track is "Blue Movies" with its risque lyrics & a great guitar hook.They even do a great version of "White Riot".
Band available for gigs-phone 0272-872220,or write to Phil Lovering,47 Hallam Rd,Clevedon, Bristol,BS21 7SE.

TWO-TONE-PINKS.
"THREE DEPRESSING TRACKS + 1". C15.
"VERBAL COCKUPS". C15.
Available from Haydon Rydings,57 Jubilee Rd, Middleton,Manchester. £1.17 each.

Great Mancunian pop in the Buzzcocks' tradition.These two 4 track EP tapes are full of songs with great hooks.Really catchy pop. Lots of good things happening up there in Manchester-is it something in the water? Well worth £1.17 of anyones money.Grab a copy while there are still some available.A fine band.Hopefully another tape will be released soon!

THE RISOTTOS.
"REMEMBER (WALKING IN THE SAND)/LOCOMOTION"
C10 £1.
Available from Rice Records,Flat 10,
13 Linden Gardens,London W2.

The London band release a single tape of their rendition of the old chestnuts by the Shangri-las & Little Eva.Both are given the 'Flying Lizards' treatment & come across extreamly well.Lots of bird effects on the a-side together with a good percussive sound.Hopefully more is forthcoming!Highly recommended.

FLAT OUT."BETTER BAD THAN BORED".
No longer available.

The Glasgow band hope to release their 4-track EP shortly on their own Acne label. Meanwhile they've made it available in a cassette form,which includes 2 extra tracks not on the projected record."Who's who" is outstanding.The lyrics being a somewhat cynical look at the rock world,sung over a superb guitar line."Zombie boogie" features a good brass section.This band really are professional!Try to find their EP when it's finally released.(Virgin should have it in).

THE FUNBOY FIVE."SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH".
Available from Cool-Cat-Daddy-O,28 Mercury Walk,Hemel Hempstead,Herts,HP2 5JP. £1.20

3 demos recorded at Quest Studios,Luton & 4 numbers taken from their John Peel Radio 1 session.Along with the 'Shapes',the 5 are one of the few bands can actually get funny songs across without sounding ridiculous. "Life after death" with it's Sooty organ adds to the atmosphere of the haunted house mentioned in the song.There's even a song about Angela Rippon..."Haircut Bob Dylan '66" again features the Sooty organ in a short catchy pop number.Worth £1.20 of anyones money.

THE CAPITOL MODELS.
"THE SWEET THRILL OF INDUSTRY". C60
Available from D.Reilly,32 St Mary's St, Edinburgh 1. C60 £1.17.

The more I play this tape the more it reminds me of 'Spirit'.The songs are very reminiscenct of those wonderful Randy California tunes that have that irritating habit of being extreamly catchy.The band release their second tape shortly & I've already sent off for mine!Great guitar riffs over a tight rhythm section.Good lyrics excellently sung.The quality is a little 'low-fi',but who cares?Grab it now...

THE POEMS."LIVING-LIFE LIKE COMFORT". C15.
Available from 39/101 Glenaffric Drive, Darnley,Glasgow,G53 7XF. £1.17

An excellently played & produced tape from a Scottish 4 piece.Lots of acoustic guitars,pianos,percussion & bubbling bass. Tony reckons it reminds him of "Amon Duul" which can't be bad!It seems almost more like jazz to me.Hopefully another tape will be made soon.Break open the piggy-bank & send off for your copy without delay.Recommended.

THE LENS-"NO TV TONITE". C60
Available from One Shoe Productions,at either 23 Marston Road,Thornhill,So'ton,or 33 Wincombe Drive,Ferndown,Dorset,BH22 8HX. £1.17 or a blank C60 + sae.

This tape is by far & away the best that we've recieved from any local band.There are no details about where it was recorded but the quality is so good that it must have been made in a studio!It reminds me of early King Crimson,whilst Tony suggested Genesis.Who really cares?An instrumental LP with lots of swirling keyboard sounds & sustained guitar.Fabulous stuff.Highly recommended!

THE LENS "NO TV TONITE"

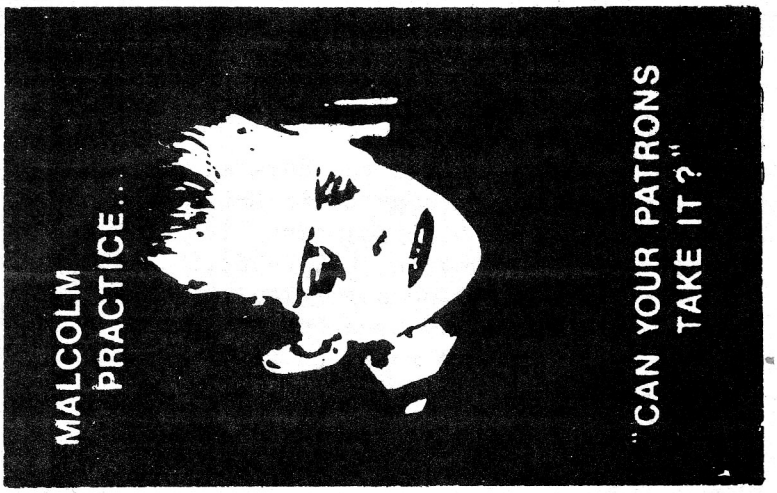
CHOOSING A FARMER PART 1
SLEEP UNTIL YOU WAKE
ON STEPHEN'S CASTLE
DOWN/SHAFTS OF LIGHT
THE RUN
ANOTHER REALIZATION OF TIDE & CHANGE
DANS LE PARC DU CHATEAU NOIR

CATCH 22-"SARAH'S LAST WORDS". C10
Available from Phil Odgers,Wanwaredanks Records,14 Hound Road,Netley Abbey,So'ton. £1

The band were formed in 1977 & played the 'Rock Against Racism' concert in So'tons' Hoglands Park.Their tape is a three track EP which has come to be accepted as a sort of 'Catch Classic'.Three extreamly good, short pop tunes that make you want to hear more (that's a hint Phil)!Great songs with good hooks in them-especially "She will come tonight".I hope that there are more tapes on the way!Recommended.

MALCOLM PRACTICE-"CAN YOUR PATRONS TAKE IT" C45 No longer available.

The Portsmouth duo did not get anymore copies made after they sold out of there first batch,because of possible legal action from their publisher & record company for breach of contract.Shame!Dave provides a solid rhythm section over which Ross plays his punchy organ runs.A fine tape!They're recording an EP with the Radio 1 ace producer,Bob Sargeant shortly,so look out for a copy.The duo are available for gigs so drop a line to Ross at 64 Ophir Road, North-End,Portsmouth,Hants,PO2 9EN.I do urge you to try & get a copy of the tape-but I've no idea from where!



THE AIRTIGHT GARAGE-"DEMOS".
Not available. C15.

A three track demo from the Brighton band which is full of songs with great hooks & driving rhythm guitar chords.They're very similar to 'Skip Bifferty'(a name for all you obscurity fans),vocally,but with a lot more punch musically!"Deadly rhythms" is the outstanding track which drives along like a runaway steamroller.I believe that they've remixed "Time & time again" for possible release as a single."Whirled up world" has marvelous guitar lines & tight drumming.Three exceptional songs,exceptionally played-more please!

VAMPIERNAACHT-"VAMPIERNAACHT".
EXISTENTIALIST TAPES E1.
Available from Gary Corben,18 Bethia Road, Queens Park,Bournemouth,Dorset,BH8 9BD.
£1.50 or a blank C90 + sae.

Similar to the 'Renaldo..' tape.The band seem to be influenced by the likes of the Pop Group/Bauhaus/Clockdva etc.Mark & Gary have multi-tracked guitars,pianos,bass,drums, radio effects etc,& produced a tape that although demanding,repays repeated listening. They're looking for two more members to join them,so if you can play sax or cello/violin please get in touch.A cassette EP featuring Vampiernaacht & Undergooch should be out soon.

THE CONTROLS-
"SOCK IT TO 'EM DAVE!"
STUPID RABBIT TAPES SRT 001.
"DON'T ADJUST THE CONTROLS".
STUPID RABBIT TAPES SRT 002.
Available from Tim Naylor,36 Wickham Place, Church Crookham,Fleet,Hants,GU13 ONG. £1.25 each.

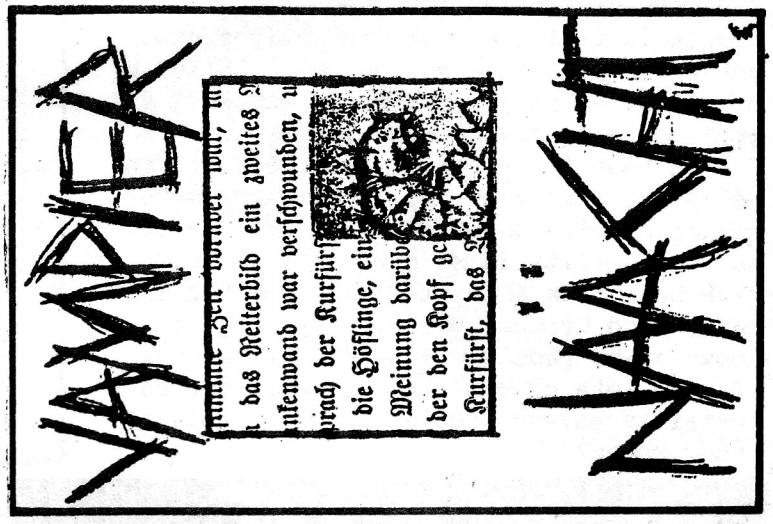
Both tapes were recorded live & feature the band blistering through their paces.I prefer the first EP with its enthusiam bursting out,& the audience heckeling.Fabulous stuff!Look out for their live bootleg tape...

JESS RODEN BAND-"LIVE AT THE MARQUEE-AUGUST 1976".
Not available. C90.

Sotons' finest! Jess & the boys at their best,steamrolling through their set at the Marquee.Forget the disappointing live LP "Blowin",(Island Records ILPS 9496),this is infinately superior!The band finally caught on tape as they really were-hot & steamy. If only this had been released at the time! Essentially a live band,the material is attacked & streatched out,with excellent brass sections that seemed diluted on their studio LPs.

RENALDO & THE LOAF-"RENALDO & THE LOAF PLAY STRUVE & SNEFF"
ROTCOD PRODUCTIONS RD1.
Available from Rotcod Productions, 60 Lichfield Road,Copnor,Portsmouth,Hants, PO3 6DF. £1.50 or a blank C60 + sae.

Is this Pompy's answer to the Residents? It certainly sounds like it! Wonderful over-the-top vocals & playing.These two loonies have multi-tracked instruments & voices into a hotch-pot of sound that is never anything less than interesting.It's demanding listening,but well worth the effort.The duo are also featured on the Portsmouth compilation LP-"South Specific".



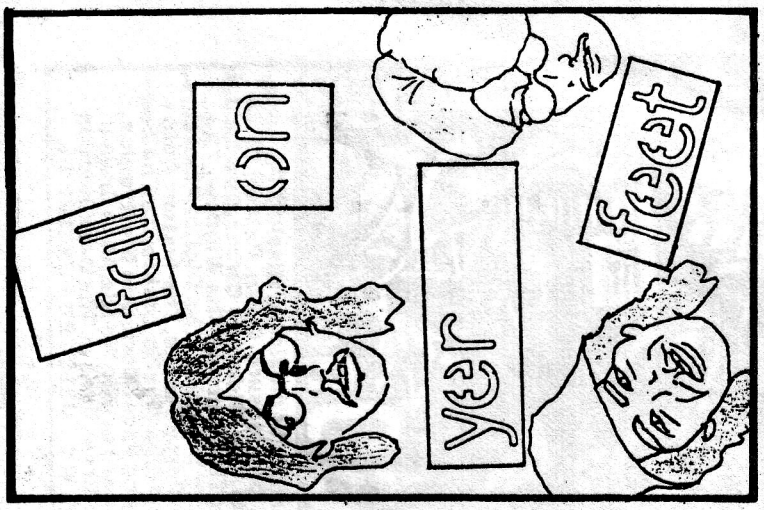
THE NIGHT THE GOLDFISH DIED-"KEN THOUGHT I MIGHT SAY ROTARY".
Available from Paul Greenaway,64 Moorland Road,Fratton,Portsmouth,PO1 5JA. C60 + sae.

A strange tape featuring Paul & Alan playing guitars,bass,handclaps etc..This tape is a little low-fi qualitywise,& I must admit that I found it pretty demanding listening.In a previous line-up they recorded tapes for the New York label "Ork Records".

Paul has a solo LP tape "Shattered Directions",& the band has "The goldfish cometh..." coming soon.

THE JESS RODEN BAND
"LIVE AT THE MARQUEE-AUGUST 1976"

REASON TO CHANGE.
BLOWIN'.
PART OF MY LIFE.
IN A CIRCLE.
DESPERADO.
ON A WINNER WITH YOU.
FEELIN' EASY.
KEEP YOUR HAT ON.
SEND IT TO YOU.
TOO FAR GONE.
JUMP MAMA.
CAN'T GET NEXT TO YOU.
MEETING ON THE ROAD.
FRIEND OF MINE.



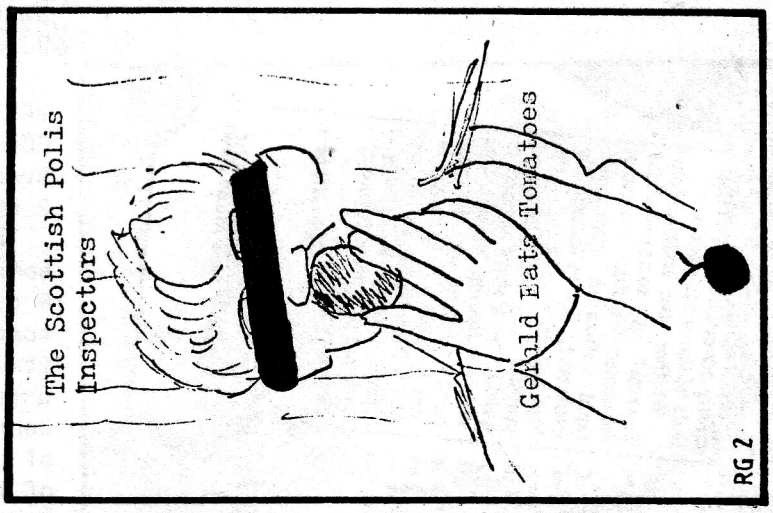
DEAN JOHNSON
"K2"
"DEAN JOHNSON"
"GETTING CLOSER"
"STILL LIFE"
"CLUTCHING AT STRAWS"
"THE WORLD LOVES A TRYER"
"BLUNT MACHETE"
"FALL ON YER FEET" + "LOVE IS A GAME" EP
Available from D.Johnson,Pear Records,
74 Kylemore Drive,Heswell,Wirral,Merseyside.

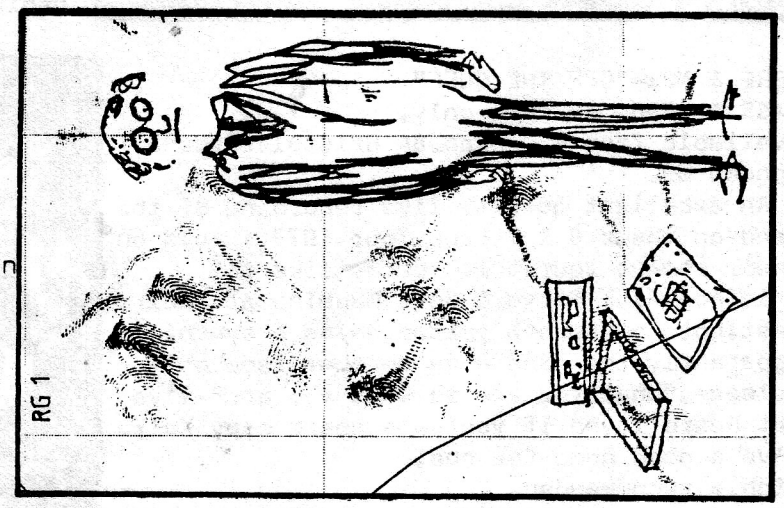
All the above tapes contain excellent recordings by Dean.A prolific singer-songwriter who accompanies himself on a variety of acoustic guitars,drums,pianos & other keyboard instruments etc.

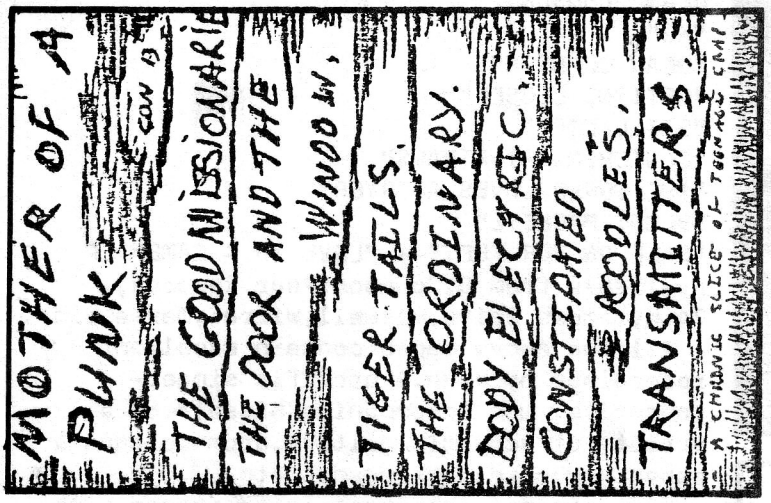
His original songs are interspersed with good cover versions of other peoples material such as,Murray Heads' "Say it ain't so Joe",Neil Youngs' "Out on the weekend", Andy Fairweather Lowes' "Dancing in the dark" & there's even a version of Norman Greenbaum's "Spirit in the sky".His most recent tape 'Fall on yer feet' also includes a 4 track EP tape so if you decide to buy one of his tapes I recommend this one.It's really excellent value for money!Before I forget-all the tapes mentioned above are only £1.20 each,& come in a fully printed sleeve.Recommended.

THE SCOTTISH POLIS INSPECTORS-
"RAYMOND BAXTERS GARDINER" (RG 1).C60.
"MINNIE CAULDWELLS CAT" (RG 2).C60.
"GERALD EATS TOMATOES" (RG 3).C60.
"RICHARD WATTIS PLAYS CHARTBUSTERS" (RG 5). C60.
"FREE FRISBEES FROM THE CO-OP" (RG 7).C90.
Available from 35 Claremont Crescent,Whitley Bay,Tyne & Wear,NE26 3HL,or 49 Cragside, Whitley Bay,Tyne & Wear. blank tapes + sae.

As you can see from the titles of the LP tapes,these 3 loonies (Captain Scarlet, Richard Shops,Brash Statement)are all about enjoyment.They've been making tapes for quite a few years-in a previous existance they released tapes under the name of "CP3", 'Jelly babies can't fight back' being just one.Appararently the band never rehearses & rarely play the same song more than 2 gigs in a row as "it gets boring".They've played gigs for the notorious 'Anti-pop' mob (Wavis O'Shave etc).Any band who talk about building a shrine to James Bolam can't be all bad!"Minnie Cauldwells cat" is worth getting for their Mike Channon impersonation alone!Richard & Brash are off to Sheffield University so don't expect quick replies-I suggest you write first.Recommended with tears in my eyes...







VARIOUS ARTISTS-"MOTHER OF PUNK"
CONVENTIONAL TAPES CON 013.
Available from A.Clough,1 Atkinson Court, 2 Kings Close,London E10. £1.37. C60.

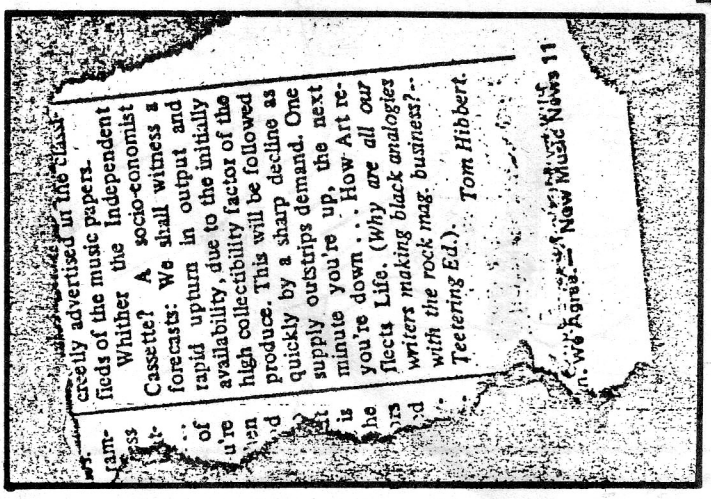
Yet another good sampler which this time concentrates on the better known bands of the 78/79 punk movement.All the pieces are live & unissued.Special mention of the excellent "Red suit" by Body Electric,& the Transmitters 4 tracks,from a bootleg YMCA gig.Tony hopes to release 'Grandfather of a hippie' next,so get your tapes off to him, if you'd like to be on it.

Well worth £1.37...

VARIOUS ARTISTS-"DELETED FUNTIME"
Available from Deleted Records,Low Farm, Brigg Road,Messingham,Scunthorpe,South Humberside. 80p (p&p inc). C90.

Probably,the sampler with the widest range of varying items-certainly the cheapest,& definately the best.A good & cheap way of finding out what you like,& from where to get more.We could do with a few more of these excellent collections,together with their well informed liner sleeves.
Highly recommended.

FUNTIME DELETED
60p max
DELETED FUNTIME
86 minutes of music by: Missing Persons, Units Of Pleasure, Colin Potter, Stabmental, The Midnight Circus, 391, 1.2.3. I Ddrim, The Door And The Window, The Electric Bereaved, The Digital Dinosaurs, Lurch, Percy Faces, The Instant Automatons, The Mystic Umbrellas, The Everchanging Face, Merz, Duo Elettronica, The Bonfires, Mic Woods, Alien Brains. Home Brew, Eyes In The Dark, Heddon Street W.1. DELETED FUNTIME ! !

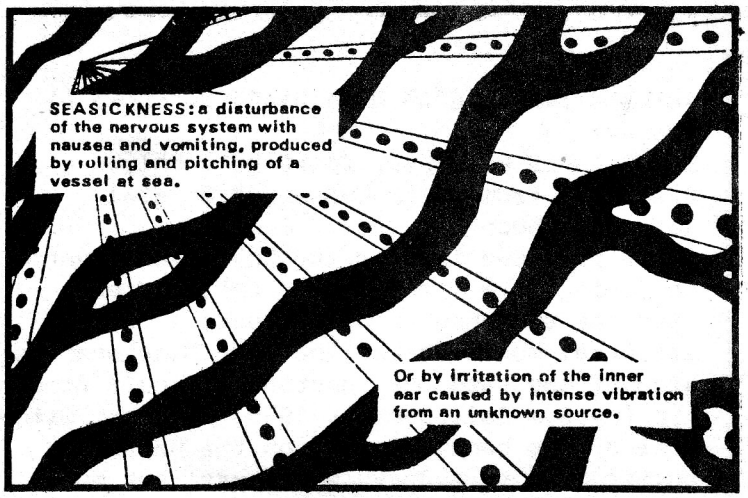

Whither the Independent
Cassette? A socio-economist
forecasts: We shall witness a
rapid upturn in output and
availability, due to the initially
high collectibility factor of the
produce. This will be followed
by a sharp decline as
supply outstrips demand. One
minute you're up, the next
you're down ... How Art re-
flects Life. (Why are all our
writers making black analogies
with the rock mag. business?--
Teetering Ed.). Tom Hibbert.
New Music News 11

VARIOUS ARTISTS-"NATIONAL GRID"
CONVENTIONAL TAPES, NG 001.
Available from A.Clough,1 Atkinson Court, 2 Kings Close,London E10. £1,50. C90.

The tape is a collection of various pieces, some of which have been released by Con.Tapes & others on individual independent outlets, together with some previously unobtainable items.It's worth getting for the otherwise unreleased material by P.A.Wells & Philip Johnson alone!Excellent value for money.Lots of good stuff that demands further investigation of the artists work-which is the whole point behind a sampler.Recommended.

HERE & NOW-"OFF THE CUFF".
CASS 1. C90. £2 PO's only.
Available from K.Dobson,8A Bristol Gardens, London W9.

An excellent quality live recording of the band on their 6 & 7 Free Tour 1979,& sold on their recent tour.this sounds like the original Pink Floyd & Soft Machine at their best!Lots of superb guitar solos & synth. Apparantly the band have another tape only release,"What you see is what you are"-I've not heard it,so if you've a spare copy Keith I've a good home for one!
Highly recommended.

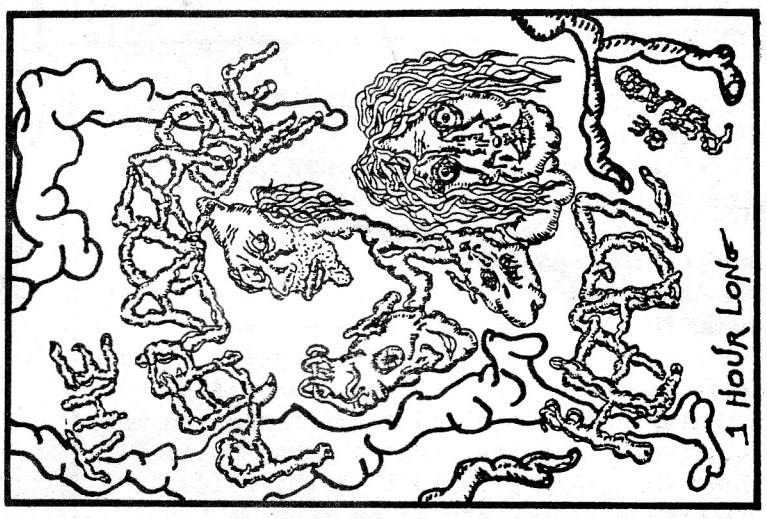

SEASICKNESS: a disturbance of the nervous system with nausea and vomiting, produced by rolling and pitching of a vessel at sea.
Or by irritation of the inner ear caused by intense vibration from an unknown source.

THE SEA OF WIRES-"INDIVIDUALLY SCREENED". SOW 2.
Available from Chris Jones,7 Billing Road, Coventry,CV5 8ET. C60. £1.50.

Undoubtably,the best synthesiser tape available that we've heard & certainly excellent value for money.Chris & 'T' have multi-tracked various synthesisers & echo machines.They've assimilated all the best qualities of Tangerine Dream,OMID,Human League,Darlek I etc...& have produced an extreamly listenable,stereo,high quality tape.Highly recommended!

THE REPLACEABLE HEADZ-"BE REPLACED".
Available from D.Underhill,173 George Lane, Lewisham,SE13. C60. £1.50 + sae.

An excellent tape that reminds us of Can! It's very difficult to really describe this one-guitars,wind-machines,vocals all add up to a remarkable item.Pete informs me that they band is now a 4 piece & that they're working on a new tape which will have more crude overdubs than 'Be replaced' (which hasn't got any)!There is a lack of sleeve notes but the waffle in the tape explains what the Replaceable Headz are trying to do. Recommended.



NAAFI SANDWICH-"NAAFI SANDWICH".
RUM 1.
Available from Naafi Headquarters,29 Tamworth Street,Earlstown,Newton-le-Willows,Merseyside, WA12 9PS. C20. £1.50

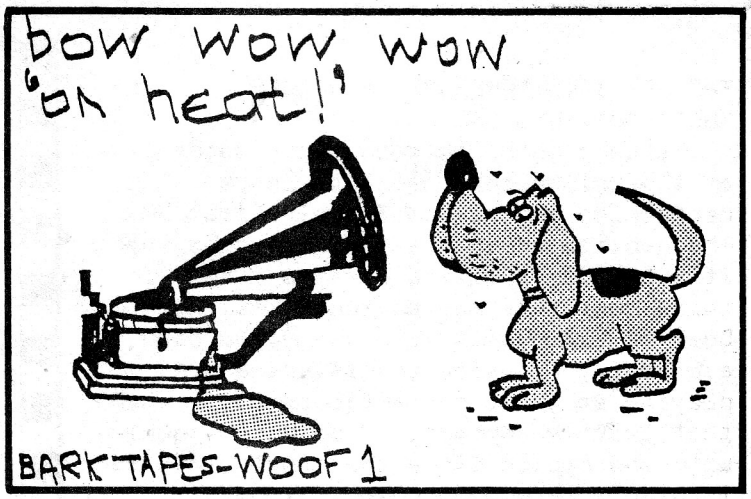
An excellent tape utilising all the dub tricks possible without going over-the-top! Superbly played & recorded with bubbling bass, nice guitar chords,precise drumming & what sounds like a harmonica (or perhaps it's one of those plastic keyboard things that Joe Jackson blows?).My only gripe against this tape is that it's over too quickly-another tape (RUM 2) is out shortly,as is their '50 Megaton' single.Highly recommended.

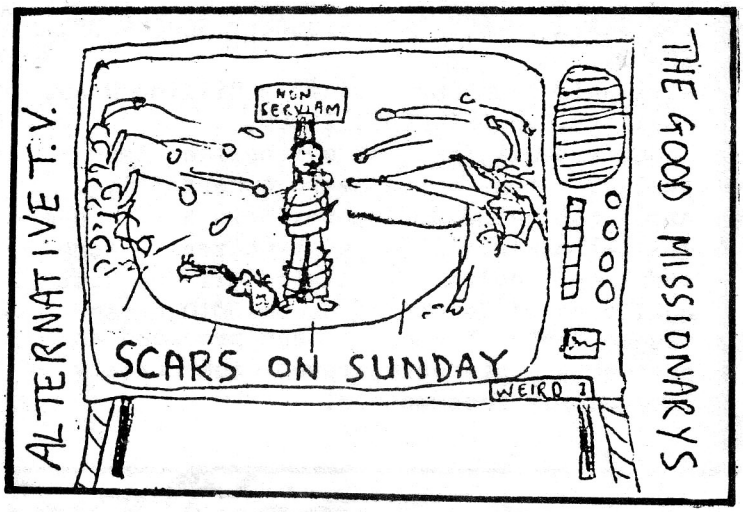
WARSAW PACT-"SEE YOU IN COURT".
Available from Stuff Central,64 Notting Hill Gate,London W11. C40. £2. (write first to see if it's still available).

Dropped by Island Records after releasing an LP (ILPS 9515)which the band recorded, mixed & pressed in only 24 hours,(& it really showed).The band have posthumously issued a selection of material,comprising of studio demos/rehearsals/live sessions.These are excellent quality recordings & you begin to wonder why they released that awful LP when these tapes were available.Still,better late than never.

BOW WOW WOW-"ON HEAT".
BARK TAPES WOOF 1. (bootleg)

I found it most amusing that EMI should release a song encouraging home taping,& that the BPI should try to get it withdrawn. Together with a band called 'Bow wow wow' on label that has a dog on its logo.Of course it can only be Svengali Malcolm McLaren behind this venture!They even produced a cassette version of their single (TC-EMI 5088).This tape has 5 tracks off the radio-Radio G string/Umma sex a la apache/Fools rush in/Baby on Mars/Louis Quatorze.They've got an already identifiable sound!Anyone got the Burundi Stephenson Black single?



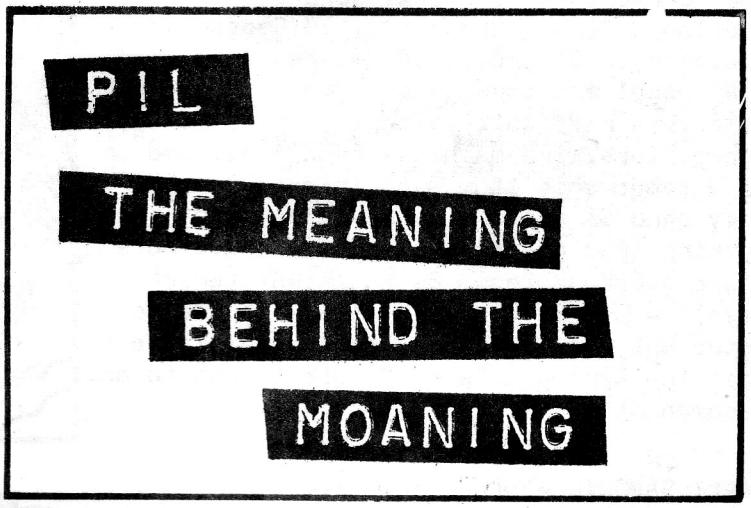


ALTERNATIVE TV/GOOD MISSIONARIES-"SCARS ON SUNDAY".
WEIRD TAPES 001. C60. £1.50 PO's only. Available from Keith Dobson,8A Bristol Gardens,London W9.

ATV recorded live at the Greenwich Theatre in spring 1979 & things are getting heavy with the audience throwing abuse & bottles etc.Great music though!The Good Missionaries side of the tape was recorded at their first gig (Lyceum Ballroom-May 1979),together with bits of the band recorded on the Pop Group summer 1979 tour.Again more excellent music played in their usual brash way! Recommended.

PUBLIC IMAGE LTD-"THE MEANING BEHIND THE MOANING". C30.

Yet another bootleg tape plundered from the BBC!The 'Old Grey Whistle Test' session (12.2.80) featuers Poptones/Careering & Annie Nightingale's comment at the end of the tape exactly sums it up-"it's the most powerful performance I've ever seen on Whistle Test".The John Peel session (17.12.79),features Chant/Poptones/Careering. Wobbles' bass & Levines' synth playing are a treat-much better than on the 'Metal Box' edition LP.I hope that their live LP "Paris Au Printemps" is as good as this!



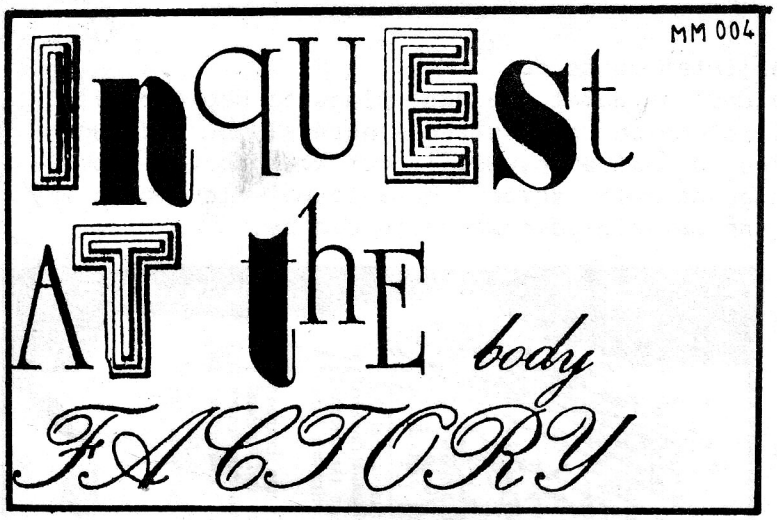
WAH! HEAT-"IGNITE!" C30.

15 minutes recorded live at Eric's last show,just before the boys in blue marched in! The trio 'explode' on three extended numbers, with jangling guitars,passionate vocals & a thumping rhythm section.Fabulous stuff! The rest of the tape has a larger line-up recorded in the BBC studios.Again the music just erupts-special mention of the stunning rhythm guitar which really pushes the band along.(Bruce Welch lives!).

If their LP is half as good as these tracks,then we're guaranteed a killer! Highly recommended if you can find it...

THE SPECIALS-"PRESSURE & SLIDE". BBCTT 101. C40.

The band going through their paces live at the Colchester Institute,Essex performing material off their first LP. The quality of this tape is so good that it's obviously lifted off the mixer (I think that this may be the BBC's "Rock Goes to College-21.1.80 show)!The band are really enjoying themselves & are playing at their best-it's really a shame that they've encountered so much trouble with the crowds since then.Again,this tape is highly recommended-so look hard!



P.A.WELLS-
"BBCKGRRRND MMSSC" (MM001).***
"WHITESCAPE" (MM002).*****
"SUPERMARKET MUSIC" (MM003).****
"INQUEST AT THE BODY FACTORY" (MM004).***
"THE ARTIST WAS RUNNING" (MM005).****
"POINT NINETEEN BLOOD REPORT" (MM006).***
"SCORE FORTUNE" (MM007).*****
"JUDY TUNES,THE...OFFER YOU TERMINAL BOREDOM"
Available from P.A.Wells,14 Whiteways Drive, Sheffield,S4 8ET,South Yorkshire. £1.17 each.

(He'd much prefer a tape of your own work, though,in exchange).

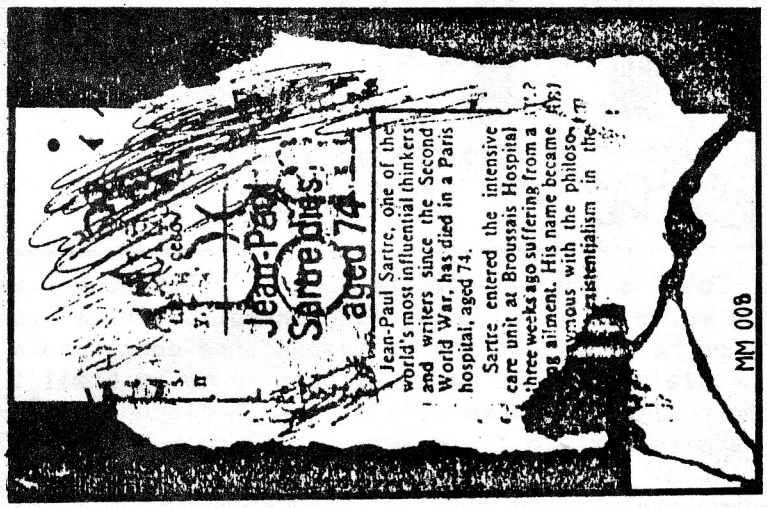
Geoff asked me to write some thing about P.A.Wells.Well...the first I heard of him was when he wrote to me about my free cassette single last September (1979).I hadn't a copy left by the time he wrote,but the correspondance continued,& nowadays about 25% of my collection of other people's tapes is material sent to me by him!I think what he has to offer is more valuable, more likely to make it's mark on a listener,than anything else going on in the cassette field, despite certain flaws.Before I try & explain why I think so (& what the flaws are),here's a list of the tapes that are currantly available,(see above).The star ratings are his.I wouldn't completely agree with them.Anyway,they don't tell you what they sound like.Well...mostly there's no planned progression in the musical sense,none whatever.Mostly there's no instruments come to that-the most common instrumental credie is for 'machine' or 'tapes',meaning I think sounds made & very much altered by the tape machines.What there is,is a real distinct approach to sound & a feeling ofpurpose.I always think of the characteristic PAW sound as a rush or howl,or a burr which just begins until it ends:but at the same time there's a lot of variation in there.You could find resemblances with any number of natural sounds.Most attempts at noise in music seem euphemistic by comparison.(But I suppose they are.Most people use instruments),Often I find it difficult,but it's influenced my own recordings,put a different perspective on them.

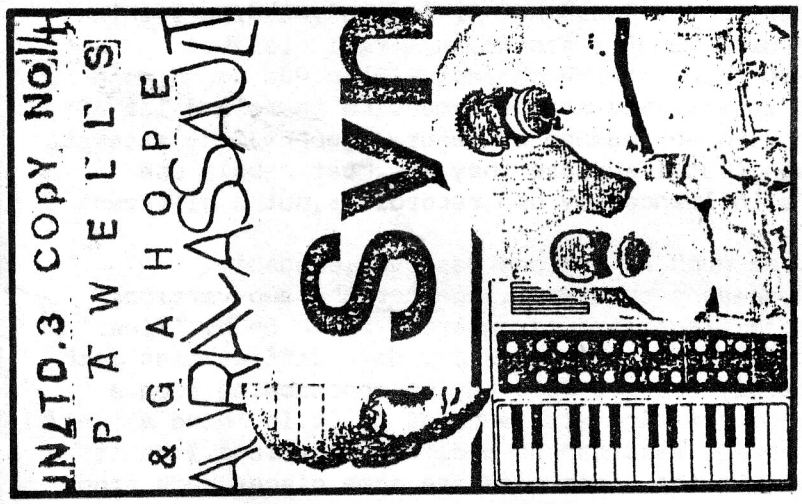
I'll write something now about each tape-not as much as any one deserves,probably.
"Bbckgrrrnd Mmssc"-originally recorded in 1977,re-done this year.I gather the two versions haven't a lot in common.Anyway,the 1980 version's first side is entirely taken up by 'Nine Slices',one of PA's lengthier pieces.There are several such pieces & I have difficulties with them all,mainly because thirty minutes is certainly the soundest way of approaching such a project,& each of his longer things is a distinct creation with a point to it.In 'Nine slices' there are 8 pauses,each of the sections betweenbeing recorded at a different volume.I can't really distinguish between sections,I must admit.On the other side are some pieces made from notes put down over a couple of years:possibly as a result of this they feature a variety of unusual (in PAW terms)sounds & moods & a common feeling of melancholy.
"Whitescape"-one side synthesiser,the other pure tape.Neither is very representative.'Whitescape' was recorded live at an art gallery in 1978,& besides being rather beyond my attention span also sounds like half an hour of electronic playing,too even,not very good if you were'nt there at the time.'Blurs 1-6' is 6 stretches of tape rewind,a captivating sound in itself though more could be done within the basic scenario:having settled that you're going to do 6 things,the next thing is to consider just what sounds you're going to rewind...or would be if I was doing it.
"Supermarket Music"-this features several things with lyrics,though the voice is mostly so treated as to make the words indecipherable.Nothing wrong with that,especially in this completely cerebral music.It's enough that you know the words are there.In the other direction is 'Three songs from the same mother',a sort of big seethe which includes part of 'Whitescapes' to better effect.
"Inquest..." & "The artist..."-best to consider these together as they're somewhat different from the others.Neither includes one huge track,automatically making them more unified affairs. By occurring several times the familar phenomenon makes more of an impression,suggests more. (This means I think they're better.)The familiar phenomenon occurring several times & making an impression...could be a description of any album,really.
"Point 19..."-back to the normal format.Side one is half a dozen things,more fragmentary than 'Bbckgrrrnd Mmssc'-there's one strong feeling of anything.Some good moments though.Side two is 'Changing the' which seems to me to be the best of his longer things,a very distorted battering

which works the way I think 'Nine slices' was intended to do.
"Score fortune"-the second side of 'Score fortune' is about the best place to begin on all this.It's 3 tracks of roughly equal length,all of which could stand seperately but add up very well.I think the star rating is mostly for this side anyway.I'm not keen on the other, 'No matter how evil...',a flow of slowed-down souns which doesn't make it,not flowing to any apparent destination nor being very physical the way slowed-down sound can be.
"Judy Tunes..."-apparantly this is actually meant to be boring.Side one (part one)is nothing more than radio signals,not a trip up & down the wavelenght but one point on the dial ad infinitum.Amazingly it's not tedious at all-perhaps because the possibility of surprise isn't there.Side two (part two) is a selection of electronic sounds & certainly isn't as successful.

Well...a lot of the above should maybe in the past tense as PAW's now got a synthesiser not in the last couple of days,since soon after 'Offer you...' actually.What I've heard of his new recordings is very encouraging,surprisingly close to his previous work,considering,but better developed.There's nothing available yet,though.

P.J.


Jean-Paul Sartre aged 74
Jean-Paul Sartre, one of the world's most influential thinkers and writers since the Second World War, has died in a Paris hospital, aged 74.
Sartre entered the intensive care unit at Broussais Hospital three weeks ago suffering from a lung ailment. His name became synonous with the philosophy of existentialism in the
MM 008



PA WELLS & GA HOPE-"AURAL ASSAULT"
UN-LTD 3.
Available from Gordon Hope,Un-Ltd Abilities, 24 Cowper Mount,Harehills,Leeds,LS9 7BB, West Yorkshire. C60. £1.17.

One of a series of duo-electronic tapes that Gordon has recorded with various other people.The tape comprises of 2 extended pieces-'So this is wot boredom Leeds 2' & 'Sheffield vs Leeds who can make the most noize!',& from the titles you can see that they are somewhat tongue-in-cheek.The sound is harsh with lots of white noise & industrial sounds.Certainly worth a listen!

FUNERAL DANCEPARTY-"QWERYUIOP"
Available from Richard Rupenus,Beehive House, North Broomhill,Morpeth,Northumberland,NE65-9UD. £1.50 or a blank C60 + sae.

An experimental band totally commited to improvisation/extemporisation.Lots of violin, gongs,percussion,& other instruments-infact listening to this tape I'm reminded of 'King Crimson' in their later stages when they tended to play 'free music',before building up to a hard,rock crescendo!Although lacking this last characteristic,Funeral Danceparty undoubtably know where they are going & this tape gives a good pointer that the listener should certainly stick with the band & look for their future recordings!Other tapes that are available from the above address are-
"The curiosity shop". C60. £1.50
"The attractions of fixed interest". C60. £1.50
All the above are highly recommended.

MLR-"HOT KNIFE EDDIE LOVES KALEIDOSCOPES"
Available from 76 Sullivan Court,Fulham, London SW6. C60. £1.75 or a blank tape + sae.

The band are a loose unit that anyone can play in.It's really a vechile for ideas.If anyone has,be it just a riff or words,then they expand on them.Improvising is the key, spontaniety & energy.Even their mistakes are better than their finished pieces because they have that vital ingredient-namely 'Spirit'.

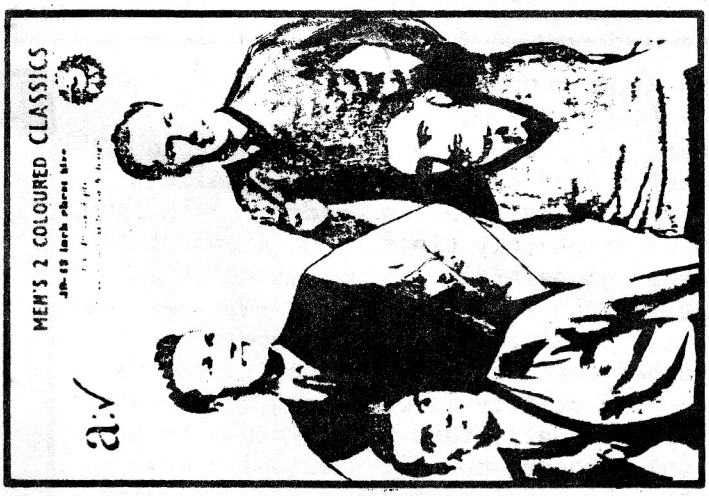
Lots of really excellent duo-lead guitar playing with,& against each other-"Place for us" is outstanding.A remarkable tape that cannot be recommended highly enough! Also available from the above address are-"Psychedelick gymkana","Delicious smoke screens from Labbasacke".(send for further details).They also hope to release a 4-track EP shortly.

RON CROWCROFT-"UNTITLED"
MUNDANE INFORMATION 001.
Available from R.Crowcroft,148 High Street, Selsey,nr.Chichester,Sussex,PO20 0QE.
C60. £1.17,or a blank C60,or in exchange for one of your recordings!

I believe that this tape is a solo effort, although there are others available from Ron by the group 'New 7th Music'.Anyway,this features synthesizers & tapes,& makes for very interesting listening.Lots of ideas here. there's a wonderful track on side 2 which has an orchestrated recording overdubbed with effects.Recommended.

A CERTAIN RATIO-"THE GRAVEYARD & THE BALL-ROOM".
FACTORY RECORDS & TAPES FACT 16.
Available from Virgin Records & other good shops,(but watch out for the price-it can vary drastically!)

A great band that tend to be overshadowed by label-mates 'Joy Division'.7 demos made at Graveyard Studios,&produce by Factory's whizz-kid-Martin Hannet.Excellent stuff.But the best is the live Electric Ballroom tapes on side 2.The band really drive the music along at breakneck speed,always poised on the edge,but never falling off.A superb tape that's highly recommended.

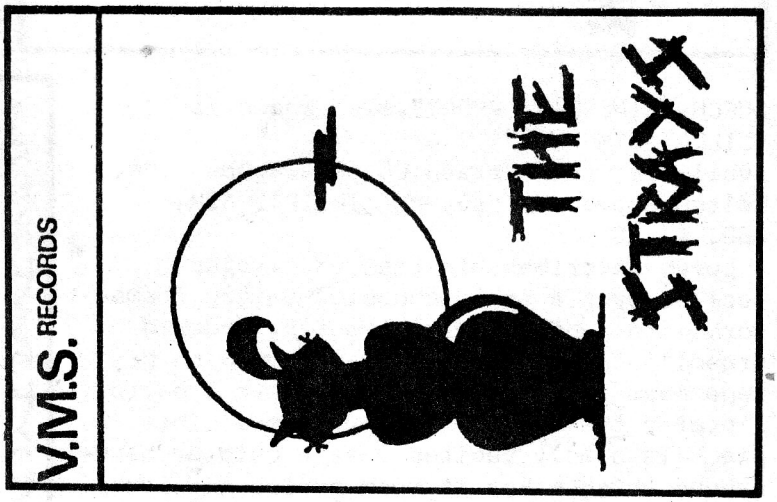


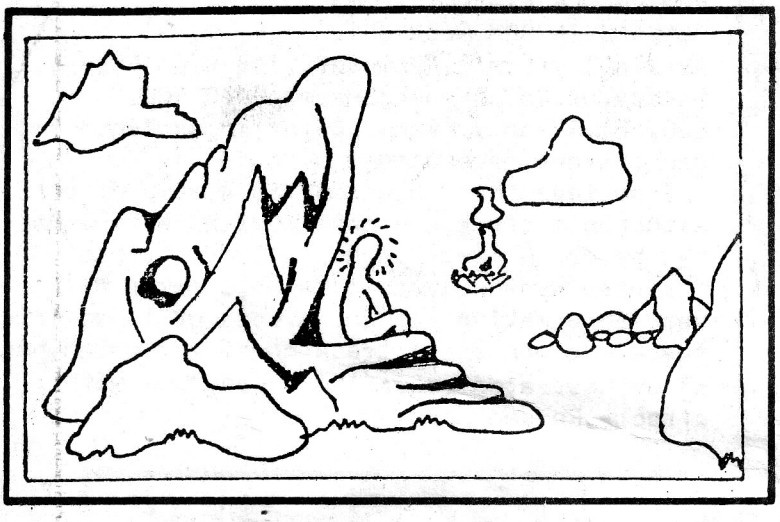
VARIOUS ARTISTS-"A ROCHDALE COLLECTION"
RONG WRONG RW1.
Available from D.Hopwood,44 Rosefield Cres, Rochdale,Lancs. C45. £1 po or a blank C45 tape + sae.

Yet another sampler,which this time has various 'bands' going through thier paces. The Atrocities,The Manic Depressives,Bill Pod & the Stocks,The Unknowns & The Slaughter House 5 procede to show there wares.As with other samplers I found things that I liked & some I hated,(in the usual sampler tradition), but it's certainly value for money & it gives an indication of what 'bands' to persue.Lots of other tapes also available.

THE STRAYS-"THE STRAYS"
VMS RECORDS C0001.
We think that this tape is available from 12 College Grove,Malvern,Worcs.

Three excellent pop songs that certainly fall within the mod/Jam syndrome.Having said that 'Concrete city' reminds me of the Buzzcocks at their best.'I don't wanna go out tonight',is full of those Pete Townsend/ Paul Weller chopping guitar chords with a hard,driving rhythm section that really thumps along.'Mods',is a saga of the trials & tribulations of being a mod,with some lovely piano chords & again those demented guitar sounds.10 minutes of great power-pop!



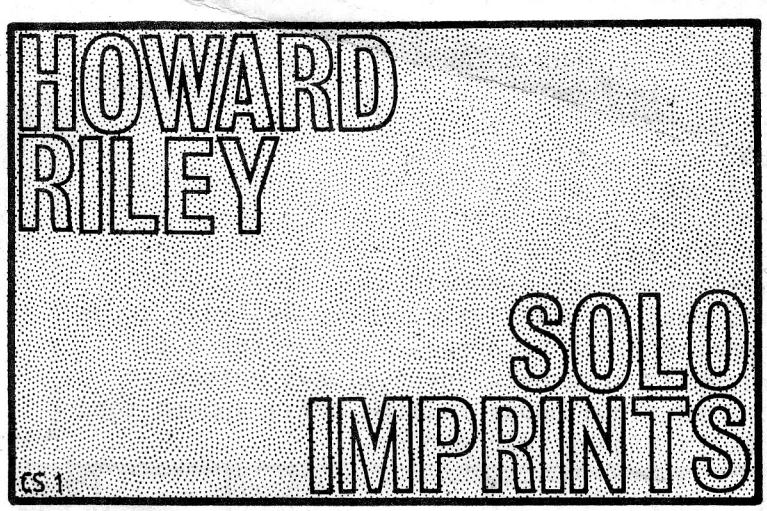


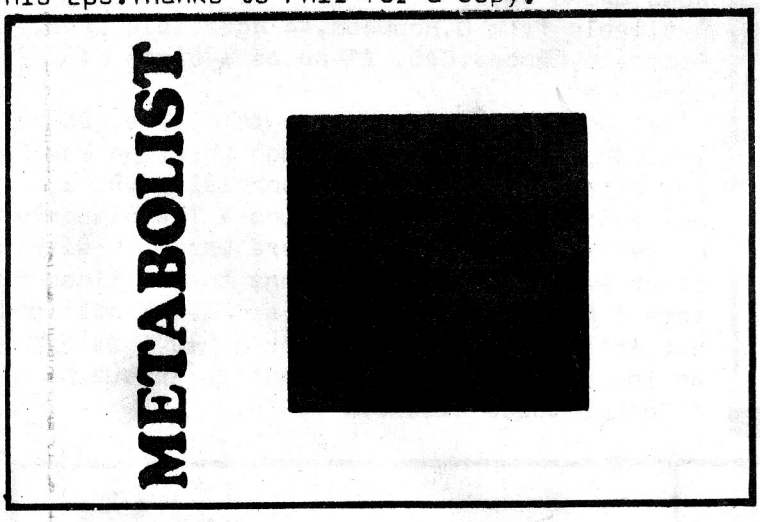
FRANK PERRY & DAVID TOOP-"TEE-PEE 1"
Available from C.Perry,Golden Hawk Publications,Flat B,6 Priory Road,Hornsey, London N8 7RD. C90. (write first to see if still available).

One in a series of tapes by the duo who for a long time have been a corner-stone of the British avant garde jazz fringe.This tape was recorded at home & features the duo playing a selection of flutes,wind-instruments & numerous percussive things. A serene,tranquil effect is produced & the listener is totally absorbed in the sound. A pleasant & rewarding tape.

HOWARD RILEY-"SOLO IMPRINTS"
JAGUAR TAPES CS1. C45.

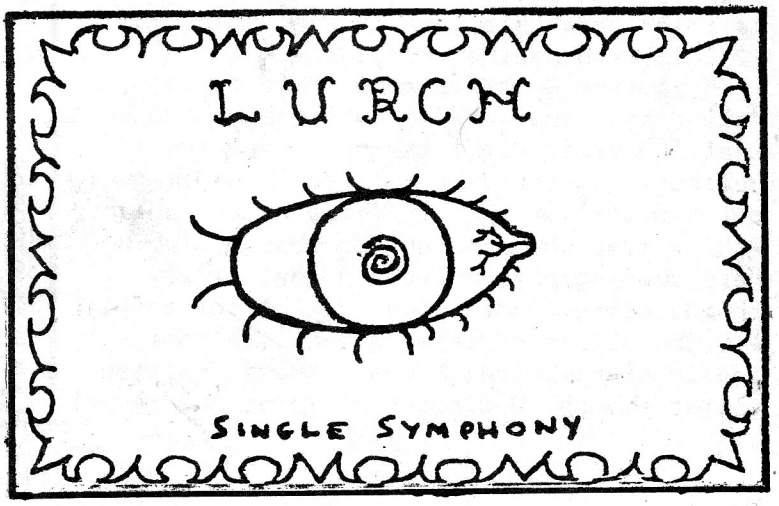
Howard has produced 5 outstanding solo piano LPs (send sae for further details). This tape was released on Gorden Beck's label & has unfortunately since been deleated! It features compositions/improvisations & I prefer it to his other official releases that are still obtainable.The sound engineer was none other than Jon Hiseman & so ; you can imagine the quality is excellent.Solo piano recordings usually tend to be dashes up & down the keyboard-but not Howards! Always well thought out & never bordering on being clever just for show.Do try to get some of his Lps.Thanks to Phil for a copy.





METABOLIST-"GOATMANAUT"
Available from J.Bailey,Dromm Records & Tapes, 18 Rokeby House,Caistor Road,Balham,London SW12. C20. £2.

A truely remarkably tape,that made me go straight out & buy their 3 EPs & LP! Great slabs of sound that really must be played loud for the full effect.'Zorden returns' has machine-like drones & stabbing guitar,while 'Chained' has the band rattling along like a train,with superb percussive noises,maniac guitar & chanting voices (certainly my fave track).'Thru the black hole' is just bass & digital echo unit which produces a strange, hypnotic effect.Highly recommended.

LURCH-"SINGLE SYMPHONY",also known as "SILENT SYMPHONY"
Available from Potash Cottage,Woods Lane, Melton.nr.Woodbridge,Suffolk,IP12 12H. C60. £1.50.

Lurch describes his tape as,'lyrics recited over a solid chugging guitar frame-work,with a backwash of chaotic,murdered organ!'I think he really has summed up his tape most effectively.Divided into 2 parts, I prefer the second-'The Survivors'.This piece is simply recited over a quieter back-ground which makes it much easier to listen to,& understand the lyrics.Also available for £1.50 is "Cobalt Blues".